





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
University of Alberta Libraries

https://archive.org/details/acrossboard2006albe_2

across

THE BOARD

June 2006

Forty years of oil sands production leaves bitumen reserve largely untapped

Over 97 per cent of bitumen remains; oil sands production to top 1 billion barrels per year in 9 years according to EUB reserves report

Canadian Industrial Emergency Conference and Expo

July 5 and 6, 2006

City of Calgary Fire Department Academy and Multi-Agency Training Centre

5727 - 23 Avenue SE
Calgary, Alberta

By attending this inaugural event, delegates will have the opportunity to interact with industry leaders and renowned experts in the field of industrial emergency response from across Canada and abroad. The event will focus on the needs and interests of the industrial emergency responder both from the corporate point of view and the view of municipal fire department mutual aid partners.

For more information, visit
www.industrialemergencyexpo.com
 1-888-253-1718

About the EUB

Our mission is to ensure that the discovery, development, and delivery of Alberta's energy resources and utilities services take place in a manner that is fair, responsible, and in the public interest. We regulate oil, natural gas, oil sands, coal, and electric energy, pipelines, and transmission line development.

On the utilities side, we regulate investor-owned natural gas, electric, and water utilities to ensure that customers receive safe and reliable service at just and reasonable rates. Regulation is done through two core functions: adjudication and regulation, formation and knowledge.

Released on June 15, the EUB's 2005 reserves report indicates that bitumen development in northern Alberta is still in its infancy with approximately 3 per cent of reserves being produced over forty years. The Report also points to oil sands production exceeding 1 billion barrels per year by 2015.

The EUB's annual Alberta's Reserves 2005 and Supply/Demand Outlook 2006-2015 includes estimates of bitumen, crude oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids, coal, and sulphur reserves, production volumes for 2005, and a 10-year supply/demand forecast for each resource.

continued on page 3



Alberta's bitumen production in 2005 averaged 1.06 million barrels per day according to the EUB's *Alberta's Reserves 2005 and Supply/Demand Outlook 2006-2015*.

Recent EUB publications

News Releases

June 15: News Release (NR2006-24): Forty Years of Oil sands Production Leaves Bitumen Reserve Largely Untapped

June 14: News Release (NR2006-23): EUB Investigating Odour Complaint in Big Valley

June 8: News Release (NR 2006-22): EUB Issues Decision on Requests for Standing Respecting Compton Petroleum Corporation Sweet Gas Well Application

June 3: News Release (NR 2006-21): Storage Tank Fire Near Fox Creek Extinguished

May 25: News Release (NR 2006-20): EUB Investigating Sour Gas Release Near Waterton

Bulletins

June 6: Bulletin 2006-20: 2006 Administration Fees, General Assessment, and Funding of Broad Industry Initiatives

May 30: Bulletin 2006-19: Applications Involving Objections Relating to the Legal Entitlement of Coalbed Methane

May 24: Bulletin 2006-18: Draft Thermal Bitumen Scheme Approval Procedure Modifications

Publications

June 15: Statistical Series 98 (ST98-2006): Alberta's Energy Reserves on the World Stage EUB Chairman Neil McCrank's Speech to the Calgary Chamber of Commerce

June 15: Statistical Series 98 (ST98): Alberta's Reserves 2005 and Supply/Demand Outlook 2006-2015: Crude Bitumen, Crude Oil, Coalbed Methane, Natural Gas and Liquids, Coal, Sulphur

May 24: Draft Measurement, Accounting, and Reporting Plan (MARP) Requirement for Thermal Scheme Application

Decisions

June 20: Decision 2006-061: Burlington Resources Canada Ltd. Application for a Well Licence Marsh Field, Gregg Lake, Hinton Area

June 20: Decision 2006-060: Direct Energy Regulated Services 2005 Default Rate Tariff and Regulated Rate Tariff Non-Energy Deferral Accounts

June 20: Decision 2006-058: West Energy Ltd. Review and Variance of Alberta Energy and Utilities Board Decision Respecting Off-Target Status of Well 00/03-34-048-08W5/0 Pembina Field

June 15: Decision 2006-057: MEG Energy Corporation - Construct and Operate a 25-kV Electrical Distribution System

June 15: Decision 2006-054: EPCOR -2005/2006 Transmission Facility Owner Tariff - 2005/2006 Distribution Tariff - Phase I

June 13: Decision 2006-056: AltaLink Investment Management Ltd. and AltaLink Management Ltd. Application for Change in Ownership

June 13: Decision 2006-053 White Fire Energy Ltd. Application for a Well Licence Pembina Field

June 8: Decision 2006-052: Decision on Requests for Consideration of Standing Respecting a Well Licence Application by Compton Petroleum Corporation Eastern Slopes Area

May 30: Decision 2006-051: Iteration Energy Ltd. Application for a Well Licence Granlea Field Application 1433701

May 24: Decision 2006-050: EPCOR Distribution Inc. 2005/2006 Distribution Tariff - Phase II

May 24: Decision 2006-049: AltaGas Utilities Inc. Request for Approval of Debenture Issue

EUB Releases Provincial Surveillance and Compliance Summary

On June 23, the EUB released the *Provincial Surveillance and Compliance Summary for 2005* (ST 99-2006), a document containing information on energy industry compliance, EUB enforcement actions, and the activities carried out by EUB field staff.

The report highlights EUB efforts to ensure that Alberta energy companies comply with the EUB rules and regulations. In all, the EUB carried out 16 782 inspections of Alberta energy facilities in 2005.

The document reveals that industry's compliance rate with major EUB regulations reached 98.2 per cent in 2005, up from 98 per cent in 2004 and 97 per cent in 2003. This measure is the best indicator of industry's compliance with the EUB's rules and regulations.

The number of pipeline failures per 1000 kilometres of pipeline was 2.3 in 2005, compared with 3.3 in 2000, representing a decrease of 30 per cent.

Annual sulphur emissions from Alberta gas plants have been reduced by 26 per cent so far this decade, falling to 57 000 tonnes in 2005 from 78 000 tonnes in 2000. Since 1974, Alberta gas plants have reduced sulphur emissions by 75 per cent from 229 000 tonnes in 1974 to 57 000 in 2005.

In 2005, the public registered 924 complaints with the EUB about oil and gas facilities. This is up 9 percent from 2003, but equal to the number of complaints registered by the EUB in 2000. EUB field staff respond to all public complaints about upstream oil and gas activities in Alberta.

In addition, the EUB suspended 91 energy facilities and operations in 2005. The EUB has suspended 825 energy facilities and operations in Alberta since 2000.

ST 99-2006 combines and replaces the previous annual reports *ST57: Field Surveillance Provincial Summary* and *ST99: Proactive Compliance Report*. The new report continues to detail industry's compliance with EUB requirements and the enforcement actions taken in cases of noncompliance. The sections relating to field surveillance and inspections also continue to describe the wide range of activities carried out by EUB field staff.

The report is available on the EUB Web site at <www.eub.ca>. ■

Forty years of oil sands production leaves bitumen reserve largely untapped *(continued from page 1)*

Additional highlights include:

Remaining established bitumen and conventional oil reserves totalled 175.6 billion barrels, consisting of bitumen at 174 billion barrels and 1.6 billion barrels of conventional oil.

Bitumen production of 388 million barrels surpassed conventional oil production by over 85 per cent in 2005 and averaged 1.06 million barrels per day.

Bitumen production has increased by 59 per cent (143 million barrels) annually since 2000.

Conventional oil production decreased by about 5 per cent in 2005 to 571,400 barrels per day.

60 per cent of 2005 conventional oil production was replaced through exploration, new drilling, and enhanced oil recovery programs.

Alberta companies produced 4.9 trillion cubic feet of natural gas in 2005.

Remaining established marketable gas reserves stood at 41 trillion cubic feet.

Recoverable coalbed methane reserves stood at 741 billion cubic feet and contributed 2 per cent of Alberta's total natural gas production.

Alberta's remaining established coal reserves are estimated at about 34 billion tonnes.

Alberta's Reserves 2005 and Supply/Demand Outlook 2006-2015 is available on the EUB Web site at <www.eub.ca>. ■

Reserves and Production Summary 2005

	Crude Bitumen		Crude Oil		Natural Gas		Coal	
	million cubic metres	billion barrels	million cubic metres	billion barrels	billion cubic metres	trillion cubic feet	billion tonnes	billion tons
Initial in-place	269 254	1 694	10 278	64.7	7 849	279	94	103
Initial established	28 392	179	2 704	17.0	4 672	166	35	38
Cumulative production	791	5.0	2 449	15.4	3 552	126	1.27	1.39
Remaining established	27 601	174	255	1.6	1 120	40	34	37
Annual production	61.7	0.388	33	0.209	134	4.8	0.033	0.036

Upcoming Public Hearings

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA
Bibliothèque et Archives Canada



3 3286 53499760 2

Application No. Applicant

Hearing Purpose

1398448	Shell Canada Limited	Application for approval to expand its Scotford upgrader
Start date: June 26, Dow Centennial Centre 8700 - 84 Street, Fort Saskatchewan, AB		
1440564	ATCO Pipelines	Non-Standard Transportation Service Agreement
Start date: July 4, EUB, West Hall, 640 - 5 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB		
1425327	1425331 Samson Canada Ltd.	Section 40 Review Request by Greg Troitsky
1425334	1425514	
1425887		
Start date: July 5, Rimbey Community Centre, 5109 - 54 Street, Rimbey, AB		
1391211	Suncor Energy Inc.	Application 1391211 (North Steepbank Mine Extension) to construct, operate and reclaim an oil sands mine; and
1391212		1391212 (Voyageur Upgrader) to construct, operate and reclaim a bitumen upgrading facility
Start date: July 5, Sawridge Inn and Conference Centre, 530 McKenzie Boulevard, Fort McMurray		
1455573	E4 Energy Inc.	Application for a licence to drill a gas well, producing gas from the Basal Belly River Sand
Start date: July 18, Hanna and District Community Center, Hanna, AB		
1439811	1439815 Fairborne Energy	Application for 6 CBM wells and a pipeline
1439818	1439821	
1443511	1443514	
1443942		
Start date: July 20		
1407824	BlackRock Ventures Inc.	Application for Leaseline Setback Distance
Start date: July 25, EUB Calgary Offices, 640 - 5 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB		
1436806	Compton Petroleum Corporation	Application to drill a vertical well from a surface location in LSD 13-20-20-27 W4M on freehold land
Start date: July 27, Foothills Centennial Centre, #4 - 204 Community Way, Okotoks, Alberta		
1346298	Cheryl Kaley; Benlato and District Community; Lochend to Langdon Power Group; Cottonwood-Spruce View Power Group; Lavesta Area Group; Warburg Powerpoint	Review and Variance Request on Decision 2005-031 500-KV Transmission System Reinforcement Project Edmonton-Calgary Area
Start date: July 31, Capri Centre, 3310 - 50th Avenue, Red Deer, Alberta		

Pending Decisions

Application No. Applicant

Hearing Purpose

1444342	West Energy	Phase II Review and Variance Hearing of Board's decision to deny West Energy's Application No. 1413462 for an off-target penalty
1422382	ENMAX Power Corporation	2006 Transmission Tariff
1416346	ATCO Gas	2003-2004 GRA Phase II - Will be done in 4 parts Part 1 - Decision 2006-062 was issued June 27 approving 2003-2004 rates Part 2 - Regarding T&C's is pending Parts 3 + 4 - Discussions are continuing
1458743	ATCO Electric	Application for 2005-2006 GTA Refiling
1389878	EPCOR Energy Inc.	2005-2006 Regulated Rate Tariff Non-Energy Application
1389879	EPCOR Energy Alberta Inc.	

This list is subject to change at any time, so please check the complete list of upcoming public hearings on the EUB Web site at www.eub.ca/docs/applications/hearings/hearings.pdf. If you do not have Internet access, contact EUB Information Services at (403) 297-8190.

Across the Board is published by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board (EUB). Information in this publication may be reproduced or quoted without permission as long as the EUB is credited.

Across the Board subscriptions

Call (403) 297-8970 or e-mail <acrosstheboard@gov.ab.ca> to receive *Across the Board* by e-mail or mail or to update your subscription contact information. All issues are also available on our Web site at www.eub.ca.

Tell us how we're doing

Please send your comments and suggestions to <acrosstheboard@gov.ab.ca>

For general inquiries, contact the EUB Customer Contact Centre

Telephone: (403) 297-8311 (press 0)
E-mail: <eub.inquiries@gov.ab.ca>

For EUB publications or data, contact EUB Information Services

640-5 Avenue SW, Main Floor
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3G4
Telephone: (403) 297-8311* (press 2) Fax: (403) 297-7040
E-mail: <eub.info_services@eub.gov.ab.ca>
EUB Web site: <www.eub.ca>

Information Services sales and pickup counter service is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Phone orders may be placed between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please note that most documents may be viewed at Information Services or on our Web site for free, but there are fees for a paper copy of many publications.

For Alberta Geological Survey (AGS) documents on geological research, contact

Information Sales, 4th Floor, Twin Atria, 4999-98th Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2X3
Telephone: (780) 422-1927* Fax: (780) 422-1918
E-mail: <EUB.AGS-InfoSales@gov.ab.ca>
Web: <www.agi.gov.ab.ca>

Questions, complaints, problems?

Utilities: For information or to file a consumer utility complaint, contact us at

EUB Utilities Branch, 10th floor, 10055-106 Street,
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2Y2
Fax: (780) 427-6970
Complaints: (780) 427-4903*
E-mail: <utilities.concerns@eub.gov.ab.ca>

Oil and gas: For information or complaints about new or existing oil and gas developments and facilities, we recommend contacting the operating company first. If the company does not respond appropriately, you may contact the nearest EUB Field Centre.

EUB Field Centres (24-hour service)

Bonnyville	(780) 826-5352*
Drayton Valley	(780) 542-5182*
Grande Prairie	(780) 538-5138*
High Level	(780) 926-5399*
Fort McMurray	(780) 743-7214*
Medicine Hat	(403) 527-3385*
Midnapore	(403) 297-8303*
Red Deer	(403) 340-5454*
St. Albert	(780) 460-3800*
Wainwright	(780) 842-7570*

* To call toll free from anywhere in Alberta, dial 310-0000 and enter the phone number, including area code, or press zero for a RITE operator.

Across the Board Advisory Committee

Diane Earle, Bob Curran, Renee Marx, Cal Hill, Pat Smith, Darin Barter, Wade Vienneau, Tom Neufeld, John Ludwick

Editor: Davis Sheremata

